

PATENT
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Confirmation Number: 3626

James L. Chappuis, M.D.

Group Art Unit: 3733

Serial No.: 10/725,832

Examiner: Michael J. Araj

Filed: 12/02/03

Docket No. 50313-1140

For: **FACET FUSION SYSTEM**

SUBMISSION TO ACCOMPANY REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.114, a Request for Continued Examination is filed concurrently with this response to the Final Office Action so that the Final Office Action mailed September 21, 2006, is now effectively made non-final. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims, as amended, are respectfully requested.

AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account no. 20-0778.